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Fairfax Station

CONNECTION Clifton & Lorton



South County's chorus, band and orchestra came together and performed "Let There Be Peace" among other songs at the class of 2018's graduation.

Their Biggest Ceremony Yet

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Next Theatrical Generation Takes the Stage

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Wexton to Take On Comstock

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HomeLifeStyle

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NEWS

Suspicious Graffiti Found Near Suspicious Death Scene

Homicide detectives are asking for the public's help in identifying suspicious graffiti found near the location of the suspicious death scene. Detectives continue to investigate the circumstances involving the death of 26-year-old James McDonald of Chantilly. They are awaiting final results from the medical examiner.



On May 28, a body was found in a wooded area of Clifton. An autopsy was conducted on McDonald, who was discovered a night before with trauma to the upper body. Detectives are trying to determine the cause and manner of death. He was last seen by a family member on Tuesday, May 15. He was reported missing Saturday, May 19. The investigation began immediately and led detectives to

track the man's phone. With the help of a search and rescue K9, the body was discovered in the 6100 block of Union Village Drive. Detectives urge anyone who may have any information about this case, to please call them at 703-691-2131.

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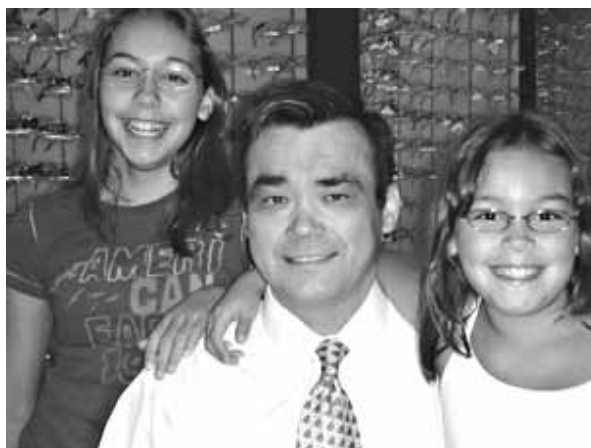


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Wexton to Take on Comstock

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS

State Sen. Jennifer Wexton (D-33) made a name for herself in Northern Virginia as a tough-as-nails prosecutor, including one case that grabbed national headlines involving a woman who persuaded her boyfriend to kill her father with a samurai sword. During her campaign for the Democratic nomination in Virginia's 10th Congressional District, she never lost that sense of law-and-order grit, refusing to be pulled to the left as other candidates were calling for President Trump to be impeached.

"We are now on a mission to bring real representation to Northern Virginia and to remove Barbara Comstock from office," said Wexton in a statement shortly after securing the nomination. "Barbara Comstock has worked to strip healthcare from millions of Americans, proudly touts her A rating from the NRA, and is so out of touch with this district that she hides from her constituents and has never held a single town hall."

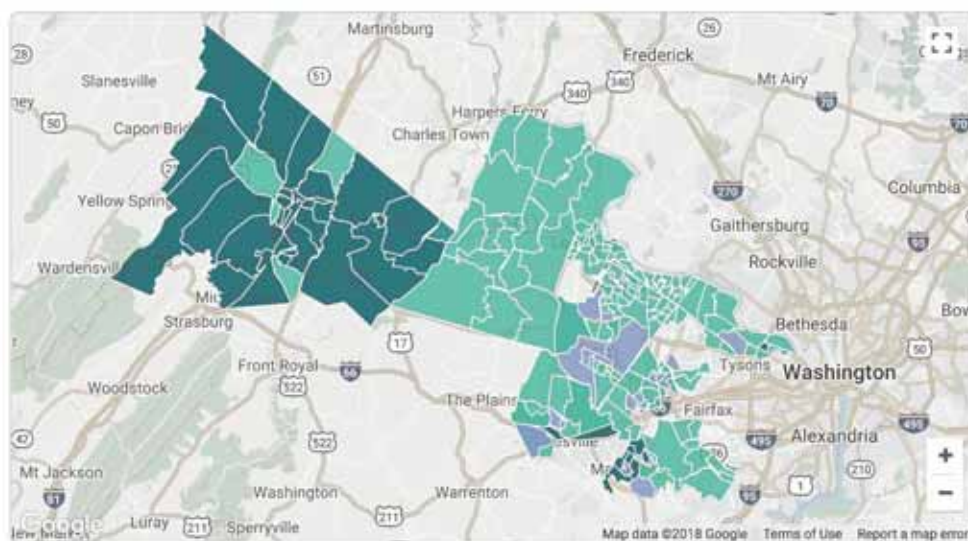
Comstock is the only Republican incumbent in Virginia to be defending a district that Trump lost in 2016, which puts this particular race at the top of the agenda for Democrats this fall. Two years ago, Comstock won 53 percent of the vote against Democrat LuAnn Bennett. But Hillary Clinton also won the district with 52 percent of the vote. Since that time, Comstock has tried to position herself as a centrist looking out for the interests of her constituents while taking an arms-length approach to some of Trump's more conservative rhetoric.

"She is the only candidate in this race who has voted to cut our taxes and increase our take home pay and grow jobs," said Susan Falconer, campaign manager for Comstock, in a written statement after her primary victory against Republican challenger Shak Hill. "She is the only candidate in this race to have passed two MS-13 anti-gang bills on a bipartisan basis that the president has already committed to sign."

Jennifer Wexton ✓	22,394	41.88%
Alison Friedman	12,289	22.98%
Lindsey Stover	8,561	16.01%
Dan Helmer	6,709	12.55%
Paul Pelletier	2,010	3.76%
Julia Biggins	1,512	2.83%

Map Precincts List Precincts

Click on a precinct for details



LAST YEAR'S BLUE WAVE election has given Democrats hope that they're entering a midterm election season with the wind at their back, and they're targeting three incumbent Republican House members in Virginia. Aside from Comstock, incumbents who find themselves in the crosshairs include U.S. Rep. Dave Brat (VA-07) and U.S. Rep. Scott Taylor (VA-02). The House Majority PAC is supporting Democrats in all three of these races, hoping to turn these red parts of Virginia blue.

"These candidates will stand up for Virginia families and fight for an agenda that lifts up the middle class while their Republican opponents have made it clear that they aren't looking out for the hardworking Vir-

ginia families they're supposed to represent," said Charlie Kelly, executive director of the political action committee. "These Republicans have enabled a toxic GOP agenda that raises taxes on hardworking Virginians, imposes a devastating age tax and takes away health care from millions of Americans."

WEXTON was able to beat back a crowded field of Democratic challengers, including two former Obama administration officials. One, Alison Friedman, was able to pump \$1 million into her own campaign and remained a constant presence on television ads. The other, Lindsey Davis Stover, became a constant presence at community meetings and town halls over the last few

Moderate state senator did not get pulled to the left in primary.

months. In the end, neither was able to match the name recognition that Wexton has built.

"From the moment it began, this campaign has been about putting people back into the center of our politics," said Stover in a concession statement, thanking the other candidates in the race. "Together, we built momentum and enthusiasm that will ensure Democrats can unseat Barbara Comstock this November."

Friedman was able to win seven precincts in Fairfax County and nine precincts in Loudoun County. And Stover had a strong showing in Frederick County, Manassas and Winchester. But Wexton was able to run up the numbers in Fairfax, Loudoun and Prince William County for a comfortable margin of victory. Republicans say they're ready to take on Wexton this fall.

"The nasty and divisive Democratic primary forced Nancy Pelosi recruit Jennifer Wexton to lurch to the far-left, rendering her unelectable," said Maddie Anderson, spokeswoman for the National Republican Congressional Committee. "Barbara Comstock has defeated a Jennifer Wexton-type candidate before, and she'll do it again in November."

211 of 211 precincts reporting (100.00%)

Jennifer Wexton	22,394	41.88%
Alison Friedman	12,289	22.98%
Lindsey Stover	8,561	16.01%
Dan Helmer	6,709	12.55%
Paul Pelletier	2,010	3.76%
Julia Biggins	1,512	2.83%

211 of 211 precincts reporting (100.00%)

Barbara Comstock*	28,274	60.71%
Shak Hill	18,301	39.29%

[HTTPS://WWW.VPAP.ORG/ELECTIONRESULTS/20180612/USHOUSE/](https://www.vpap.org/electionresults/20180612/USHOUSE/)

Union Mill Holds 5K Fundraiser

The Union Mill Family Fitness 4 a Cause crew hosted a 5K race at Burke Lake to raise money for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society to honor Jack Brillantine by being Brillantine Tough. Jack is a sixth grade student at Union Mill who has been battling Leukemia this year.



Medicaid Expansion Will Save Lives

Almost too many benefits to count that will help all Virginians, including economic stimulus.

The benefits are huge. The Virginia General Assembly, finally motivated by the huge change in the House of Delegates wrought by energized voters last November, passed a budget that included expanding Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act.

A celebratory press release goes out any time 10 or more jobs come to any place in Virginia. But estimates are that finally accepting the available federal money to expand Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act could stimulate the creation of 30,000 jobs.

Just including the expansion in the budget made hundreds of millions of extra dollars available for other priorities.

It will make all of us who live and work in Virginia healthier via “herd immunity.” Ensuring that our fellow residents have access to healthcare, to medications to treat contagious illnesses, to vaccinations, to preventive and acute care protects all of us. We don’t want the people who shop with us, ride with us on the Metro or wait in line at motor vehicles to be sick without a reasonable way to be treated. We want the people around us to be healthy. It makes everyone healthier.

In Northern Virginia, tens of thousands of people who are living without health insurance

will be eligible. Hundreds of thousands of people across the state will gain access.

Virginia has bypassed about \$10 billion by not having expanded Medicaid since it was possible. It’s not perfect, but now it is done.

“Health care is not a privilege: It is a right,” said state Sen. Dick Saslaw, highlighting the importance. “A lot of us here have had a lot of breaks in our lives, but there are many others out there who do not get these breaks. They work hard, but for one reason or another things don’t turn out right for them. These people need our help, and we have done that.”

Other perspectives on the benefits: “As a mother of an Autistic child, I know just how important Medicaid is for many things here in Virginia. Medicaid helps fund not just our schools but also our Special Education programs here in Virginia,” said Monica Hutchinson, organizer for New Virginia Majority. “This expansion will have a ripple effect. Not only will hundreds of thousands of Virginians receive the care they deserve, but our schools will also receive extra money in their annual budgets.”

“Now, nearly 400,000 Virginians can see a doctor without fear of financial ruin,” Del. Kathy Tran said. “Last election, voters made it clear that increasing access to healthcare is the top issue for our Commonwealth.”

EDITORIAL

Richmond Highlights: 94-1 for Metro Reform

General Assembly session wrap-up.

BY TIM HUGO
STATE DELEGATE (R-40)



This year, the General Assembly addressed a myriad of issues that will impact our community and the entire Commonwealth. From economic development to energy, public safety to transportation, many important discussions and compromises occurred.

My policy initiatives were driven by conversations I have with constituents. I focused on improving our transportation infrastructure, increasing Virginia’s renewable energy portfolio, and creating safer communities, while holding the line on new taxes.

Northern Virginia’s congestion impacts our quality of life and regional economy daily. A vital component of our transportation infrastructure is the Metro system which, unfortunately, is unreliable and less safe than riders deserve. When running efficiently, Metro gets cars off the roads, reduces congestion, and provides transportation options for Northern Virginians.

This year, I sponsored the bipartisan comprehensive Metro reform and funding package

that passed with a 94-1 vote. The legislation includes key reforms such as a three percent cap on annual operating expenses, increased oversight, and changes to depoliticize Metro board governance. We met Virginia’s funding goal by prioritizing existing transportation dollars. With local taxes going up again in Fairfax, I felt additional tax increases on Northern Virginians were not necessary.

Virginia’s renewable energy portfolio has expanded, but we can do more. I sponsored legislation removing barriers for solar project development, strengthening our grid infrastructure, and directing utilities to generate more power from renewable sources — specifically 5,000 megawatts of utility solar and wind energy. This is in addition to my previous legislation that promoted net-metering and that created Virginia’s Solar Development Authority.

The opioid epidemic continues to impact Fairfax families at an alarming rate. The General Assembly has worked to help those suffering and reduce overdoses. This year, the House expanded on my 2017 legislation which required doctors to request a patient’s prescription history before initiating a new prescription and direct them to limit opioid prescrip-

“As fewer and fewer people have employer-paid health coverage for themselves, much less their families, elections have consequences that can mean the difference between life and death,” said Jaime Contreras, a vice president at 32BJ SEIU.

“The budget’s inclusion of a bipartisan compromise plan to drawdown available federal funds to help hundreds of thousands of hard-working, uninsured Virginians gain health care coverage will promote public health improvements, job growth, economic vitality, and strengthen our health delivery system,” said Virginia Hospital & Healthcare Association President and CEO Sean T. Connaughton.

“We are especially thrilled that some 7,000 Arlingtonians now will have healthcare coverage — this legislative action will improve outcomes for their health and welfare, strengthen our workforce, and help our community and the Commonwealth,” said Katie Cristol, Arlington County Board chair.

AARP Virginia State Director Jim Dau said the bipartisan effort increases access to health care for 400,000 Virginians, including 95,000 people over 50 who are not yet eligible for Medicare.

“We have been fighting to expand Medicaid for years and I’m so proud to have been a part of the team that finally got it done. This achievement will dramatically improve the lives of real people in communities across the Commonwealth, including over 5,600 people in the 49th district,” said Del. Alfonso Lopez (D-49)

tions to no longer than seven days. Now, a prescription history check is required for new prescriptions related to a surgical procedure such as wisdom tooth removal.

In years past, this time of year is when high school bands, cheerleading squads, and sports teams are holding car wash fundraisers. Recently, various localities have restricted these activities due to over-burdensome federal regulations. My legislation will allow these groups to hold car washes with biodegradable soaps to lessen the environmental impact. I want to thank Springfield Supervisor Pat Herrity for bringing this to my attention.

Lastly, I frequently hear constituents say their taxes are high enough. I agree. That’s why I again worked to hold the line on new taxes. This year, the House defeated more than \$770 million in proposed new taxes, including a new tax for streaming services such as Netflix, Hulu, Pandora, and Spotify, as well as an effort to reinstate the Estate Tax (so called “Death Tax”).

Overall, the 2018 session was productive. Virginia once again proved that bipartisanship works. If I can ever be of assistance, please email me at delthugo@house.virginia.gov.

Write

Letters to the Editor
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Call: 703-917-6444.
By e-mail: south@connectionnewspapers.com





Keynote speaker J.V. Venable speaks at South County's graduation, inspiring graduates to accept their flaws and to overcome their problems to achieve their dreams.



South County students receive their diplomas and become alumni as the class of 2018.

PHOTOS BY TAYLOR J. GOUTERMAN/THE CONNECTION

Their Biggest Ceremony Yet

South County High School had their 13th graduating class on June 11, where more than 500 students received their diplomas.

BY TAYLOR J. GOUTERMAN
THE CONNECTION

From middle to high school, their circle is complete.

South County High School had the first graduation, the class of 2018, who rose up from South County Middle School, to graduate together.

The commencement took place June 11 in the morning in the Patriot Center at George Mason University. Kathleen Landrum, who is retiring after the school year, led the procession after serving Fairfax County Public Schools for 34 years, the last 13 teaching at South County.

Honor graduate speaker Jake Borenstein stood in front of his peers to thank him for encompassing a collective Stallion identity. He mentioned his support and excitement was especially prominent when the basketball team won

states.

Borenstein then referred how grateful he was for the South County community, recalling when his house burned down from a fire in 2016, and how they came to his support with clothes and a place to sleep.

"As I sat in my neighbor's basement after this tragedy occurred," Borenstein said, "I received over 100 texts from my friends and people I had never even talked to."

Keynote speaker J.V. Venable spoke with enthusiasm on his feet, describing his desire to pilot an F-16. He told the story about how he felt demonized by other social forces like his peers and his instructors, but later realized it was his own faults that held him back. He said it was him not being the best pilot of his class, so he owned up to his mistakes to put his foot forward to achieve his dream.

He then talked about the battle of his life, a cancer diagnosis

which he said would prevent him from flying, but that he used as an obstacle to overcome to get himself in the best emotional and physical shape of his life as well as to get himself into the cockpit of an F-16 to become the Thunderbird commander.

"You have got two choices,"

Venable said. "You can fall backward and give up that dream to somebody else, or you can fall forward. Always fall forward."

Five-hundred-fifty students then received their diplomas, with a consistent roar of cheering from sections of the stadium, as parents and loved ones screamed and cried

for their children, who will enter the next chapter of their lives.

The recession was led by Scott Saylor, also retiring after the school year after 21 years of service, and also the last 13 teaching at South County.

"We can confidently say we made it," Borenstein said.



More than 550 students sat in anticipation of receiving their diplomas, graduating from South County High School.

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Preparing Home for Summer

From finding spaces for wet swimsuits and school papers to adding new throw pillows, small touches can add a warm-weather feel.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF ANNIE ELLIOTT INTERIORS.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

When school ends and summer begins, a home's functionality can change. From backpacks overflowing with a school year's worth of school papers and art projects that need a home to bedrooms that call for a warm weather refresh, local designers suggest small tweaks to interior spaces that can yield a big impact.

From breezy white sheets to beach-themed accessories, summer calls for a lightening up of home decor, advises interior designer Anne Madden of Mount Vernon. "I always encourage clients to refresh their home decor during warmer months," she said. "Remove heavy bed linens that were meant to keep you cozy and replace them with light and airy linens in neutral or cool colors. This is also a good time to swap out throw pillows made from heavy fabrics like wool and incorporate pillows made from lighter fabrics like linen into your home's design."

In addition to changing bedroom accessories, summer is also good time to breathe new life into bathroom decor. "Take an inventory of your linen closet and replace towels that are worn and frayed with thick, fluffy ones," said Madden. "Make sure your shower curtain and liner are fresh and free of mildew. If they aren't, replace those too."

Corralling pool necessities into a designated space is a key to maintaining an organized home during the summer, advises professional organizer Susan Unger of Clutter SOS. "When preparing to head to the pool with your children, it's a real time saver to have an area in the laundry room, entry or garage where all the necessary items are kept and they don't need to be gathered up each time," she said. "Keep a beach bag loaded with sunscreen, towels, snacks, toys and clothes. Perhaps each child could even have their own beach bag. Have a designated area in your home for wet towels and suits to be hung up to dry when returning home."

Create a space that is dedicated to summer crafts in a way that doesn't overtake a home's aesthetic, suggests Unger. "Having a

"Have a designated area in your home for wet towels and suits to be hung up to dry when returning home."

— Susan Unger, Clutter SOS



Adding new towels and shower curtain in light and airy colors, like those in the bathroom by Annie Elliott Interiors, can add a touch of summer to a bathroom.

separate crafts table for children is great or if space is an issue covering the kitchen table with a plastic tablecloth will work also," she said. "It also helpful to have a separate cart with plastic drawers or a small shelving unit with plastic bins to house craft items. I like plastic because it is washable."

Each drawer or bin can house items like paint, marker, crayons, coloring books or construction paper, continued Unger. "Put a printed label on each drawer or bin," she said. "I like to add a picture of the item as well which encourages younger children to start developing reading skills. They are then also able to match the item to the container when it comes to putting away the supplies. It is never too early to encourage cleaning after themselves."

The beginning of summer is a great time to sort through school papers and art projects collected thought out the year, says Unger. "As the parent, it will make it easier for your child if you do a presort and get rid of all the schedules, notices and worksheets before involving your child in the process," she said. "Then you both can decide on the special items to keep. I like to use a plastic file bin for each child and put each year's items in a hanging file with the grade on the file tab. This also creates a limited amount of space for the selected items to keep."

If you haven't already done so, schedule a maintenance service appointment for your HVAC system, suggests Maden. "It's better to spend the money now to make sure it's in good working order than to wait until breaks down during a heatwave and be at the mercy of overbooked repair companies," she said.



Adding throw pillows in light, airy colors like the one in the room by Annie Elliott Interiors, can make a space appear ready for summer.

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NEWS

One Teen Killed, 4 Injured in Lorton Crash

Crash reconstruction detectives have identified the victims involved in the June 8 crash on Furnace Road as teenage boys. A preliminary investigation has determined a Nissan Maxima, driven by an unlicensed 14-year-old from Prince William County, was southbound on Lorton Road when he lost control and left the roadway. The car struck a tree and the impact caused the vehicle to flip before coming to rest on its driver side door. The four passengers, all 15, and also from Prince William County, were taken to the hospital with what are believed to be non-life threatening injuries.. Alcohol does not appear to be a factor, however, detectives continue to investigate the crash to determine if speed was. No charges have been placed at this time. Once the in-

vestigation is complete, the case will be brought to the Commonwealth Attorney's Office to determine if any charges will be placed.

Two of the four victims in June 8 crash have been released from the hospital after being treated for non-life threatening injuries. The other two teenage boys remain in the hospital in with non-life threatening injuries.

- ❖ 14-year-old driver - treated and released
- ❖ 15-year-old passenger - treated and released
- ❖ 15-year-old passenger - remains in the hospital with non-life threatening injuries
- ❖ 15-year-old passenger - remains in the hospital with non-life threatening injuries
- ❖ 15-year-old passenger - died as a result of his injuries

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Submit civic/community announcements at ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Assistance League of Northern Virginia, a volunteer nonprofit,

invites community members to join the organization to participate in its Reading Express program. Volunteers provide one-on-one tutoring to first grade students during the school year. To learn more contact VP Membership Mary Gronlund at gronbiz@aol.com or Program Coordinator Lynn Barron at lynnieb517@verizon.net.

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lost (adj): 1. unable to find the way. 2. not appreciated or understood. 3. no longer owned or known

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The Next Theatrical Generation Takes the Stage

The 19th Annual 2018 Cappies Award Gala honors area high school talent.

BY ANDREA WORKER
THE CONNECTION

While the current crop of Broadway luminaries were receiving their Tony awards in New York on Sunday, June 10, the next generation of theatrical stars were being equally feted — and showcasing their many talents — at the 19th Annual Cappies Awards Gala in the Concert Hall at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

“Lead Players” Erich DeCinzo, Phil Reid, and Diane Poirier, together with hosts — and Cappies Governing Board members — Judy Bowns and Janie Strauss kept things moving along with abundant witty repartee throughout the three-hour event. With musical numbers and dramatic scenes performed by cast members from some of the Cappies nominated shows, audience enthusiasm never waned, from the opening number “Come On, Get Cappies,” (sung to the tune of “Get Happy,” written by Harold Arlen and Ted Koehler, and adapted by Judy Garland as one of her signature songs) to the show-stopping finale, featuring a number composed by long-time Cappies musical director, Chris Johnston, who teaches musical composition at the Fairfax Academy for Communications and the Arts, when not conducting the Annandale Northern Virginia Community College Symphony Orchestra.

AWARDS were presented in 39 categories, ranging from actors/actresses in lead and supporting roles in plays and musicals, vocalists, costumes, choreography, orchestra, technical arts such as Lighting, Sets and Sounds and many more.

The Duke Ellington School of the Arts in the District took home the prizes for Best Play (“The Rimers of Eldritch”) and for Best Actor and Actress in that production, but there were plenty of students and performances from Northern Virginia, from Alexandria to Leesburg, that won the votes of the 436 student critics who had reviewed five or more shows to become eligible Cappies Awards voters.

Kyle Dalsimer from Annandale High School was named best in the Lead Actor in a Musical category for his performance in “The Hunchback of Notre Dame.”

The Oakton HS “Titanic Band” was tops in Orchestra.

Olympia Hatzilambrou must have wowed as the Female Vocalist in Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology’s “Mary Poppins.”

John Henry Stamper from Westfield High



Accepting the award for best Musical, “Monty Python’s Spamalot” are from left, Robinson High School students Elizabeth Mpanu-Mpanu, Anna Maria Shockey, Daniel Jeff Williams III, and Claire Barton.



Robinson High School’s Nico Ochoa won best Supporting Actor in a Musical for his part in their production of “Monty Python’s Spamalot.”



Abby Comey’s performance in McLean High School’s production of “9-5: The Musical” won her the top prize for a Comic Actress in a Musical.

PHOTOS BY
ANDREA WORKER/
THE CONNECTION

School in Chantilly took the top Male Vocalist honors as the “Phantom of the Opera.”

And the award for Musical of the Year went to Robinson Secondary School for their production of “Monty Python’s Spamalot.” The audience was treated to the song “Knights of the Round Table” by the Robinson crew early in the program.

THE LIST of talented young winners in the region goes on — and can be found on the Cappies website www.cappies.com/nca.

The Cappies were established in the wake of the Columbine High School massacre in 1997. The vision of the late William Strauss, co-founder of the Capitol Steps political satire review, and brought to life with his partnership with Judy Bowns, the Cappies

began as an effort to “bring positive attention to teenagers engaged in creative pursuits.”

Their mission has expanded to include opportunities for constructive critical feedback for the theatrical activities of those youth, to honor the advisors, mentors, and teachers, as well as the students, and to provide a truly unique collaborative learning experience for high school theatre students.

The nonprofit organization has also expanded outside of the immediate area in those nineteen years, adding nine chapters around the country, and an additional three in Canada.

The telecast of the 2018 Cappies Gala can be viewed online beginning on Saturday, June 16 at www.fcps.edu/tv.

Winners

Category, Winner, Show Name, School Name

- Andy Mays Rising Critic, Sarah Bourgeois, Westfield High School
- Maryland Theatre Guide Returning Critic, Katherine Kelly, McLean High School
- Special Effects and or Technology, Jack Griggs, Diego Maldonado, JD Mayer, Titanic, Oakton High School
- Sound, Victoria de Dios & Emma Clark, Dogfight, West Potomac High School
- Props, Lily Shirley, The Odd Couple, H-B Woodlawn Secondary Program
- Lighting, Kayla Claussen, Jessica Steadman, and WPHS Lighting team, Dogfight, West Potomac High School
- Orchestra, The Titanic Band, Titanic, Oakton High School
- Choreography Kristen Waagner, Ashley Winegarden, 9 to 5 the Musical, McLean High School
- Ensemble in a Musical, Jarheads, Dogfight, West Potomac High School
- Female Vocalist, Olympia Hatzilambrou, Mary Poppins, Thomas Jefferson High School for Sci/Tech
- Male Vocalist, John Henry Stamper, The Phantom of the Opera, Westfield High School
- Comic Actress in a Play, Annie Silva, Pride and Prejudice, Chantilly High School
- Comic Actress in a Musical, Abby Comey, 9 to 5 the Musical, McLean High School
- Comic Actor in a Musical, Xavier Molina, The Drowsy Chaperone, Wakefield High School
- Supporting Actress in a Musical, Mely Megahed, Phantom, South Lakes High School
- Supporting Actor in a Musical, Nico Ochoa, Monty Python’s Spamalot, Robinson Secondary School
- Lead Actor in a Musical, Kyle Dalsimer, The Hunchback of Notre Dame, Annandale High School
- Song, Some Kind of Time, Dogfight, West Potomac High School
- Critic Team, McLean High School
- Musical, Monty Python’s Spamalot, Robinson Secondary School

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ENTERTAINMENT

Submit entertainment announcements at www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/. The deadline is noon on Friday. Photos/artwork encouraged.

ONGOING

Art Exhibit: House, Sky and Abyss.

Through June 24, gallery hours at Workhouse Arts Center's Vulcan Muse Gallery, 1st Floor, 9518 Workhouse Road, Lorton. House, Sky and Abyss is a solo exhibition featuring Gerardo Camargo chronicling the relationship between natural environment and social constructs. Visit www.workhousearts.org.

THURSDAY/JUNE 14

Art and Lunch. 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. The Fairfax Art League will be hosting an Art and Lunch event. Bring lunch and enjoy the company of other artists. Free and open to the public. New members welcome. Visit fairfaxartleague.net or call 703-587-9481.

Artist Reception. 7-9 p.m. at Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. The Fairfax Art League will be hosting a Feature Artist Reception. Free and open to the public. New members welcome. Visit www.fairfaxartleague.net or call 703-587-9481.

FRIDAY/JUNE 15

Read for Fun. Fairfax County Public Library helps make reading fun by providing tools, access and incentives during its Summer Reading Adventure. The Summer Reading Adventure runs June 15-Sept. 1 and invites all children and teens - birth through high school - to read for fun over the summer. The theme in 2018 is "Reading Takes You Everywhere." Visit research.fairfaxcounty.gov/summer-reading.

Old Town Village Performances: Main Street Brass Quintet. 7-8 p.m. at Old Town Plaza, 3955 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax. The weekend starts here - Friday night on the Old Town Village Plaza - music and dance to relax by. Fridays, June-September, weather permitting. Performances are free. Call 703-385-7858 or visit www.oldtownplazafairfax.com.

B-I-N-G-O. 7 p.m. at Fire Station 3, 4081 University Drive, Fairfax. Enjoy free coffee, entertaining callers, a friendly atmosphere, \$1,000 guaranteed jackpot, treasure chest progressive raffles, and good food available for purchase. All proceeds go to purchasing fire and rescue equipment. Visit www.fairfaxvfd.com or call 703-273-3638.

Family Movie Night: "Lego Ninjago Movie." 7 p.m. at Sherwood Community Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Enjoy a free, family friendly (movies are PG) movie night. An adult must accompany anyone under the age of 14. "Britepaths" Food Drive at Family Fun Nights. Britepaths is a volunteer-based organization that identifies and addresses the unmet fundamental needs of Fairfax area residents. Call 703-385-7858.

SATURDAY/JUNE 16

Bike to Market Week. 8 a.m.-noon at Burke VRE, 5671 Roberts Parkway, Burke. The Fairfax County Farmers Markets will be celebrating Bike to Market Week at select locations in collaboration with the Fairfax County Department of Transportation. Bring family and friends along and receive a free bike map and giveaways. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets or call 703-642-0128.

Kidz Korner: Mr. Skip - Fun and Songs. 10:30 a.m. in Old Town



PHOTO BY CHIP GERTZOG, PROVIDENCE PLAYERS

Liz Mykiety as Millie Michaels and Dave Wright as Marvin Michaels in the Providence Players production of the Neil Simon comedy "California Suite."

'California Suite'

The Providence players conclude their 20th anniversary season with the Neil Simon comedy, "California Suite," Simon's humorous confection in four separate comedy playlets with one common thread. Four couples from different cities travel to California over the course of a year and stay in the same Beverly Hills Hotel suite, bringing their problems, anxieties and comic marital dilemmas with them. On stage through June 16; Thursday-Saturday, 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, 2 p.m. at James Lee Community Center Theater, 2855 Annandale Road, Falls Church. Adults, \$20; students/seniors, \$17. All seating is reserved. Call 703-425-6782 or visit www.providenceplayers.org for more.

Square at the pergola, Fairfax. A variety of children's activities and entertainment in Old Town Square, Saturdays June-September. Free show. Visit www.fairfaxva.gov/government/parks-recreation/old-town-square.

Pet Adoption Event. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at Pet Supplies Plus, 11054 Lee Highway, Fairfax. Meet some of the critters currently looking for homes, and find out how to adopt today. On the third Saturday of each month in association with the City of Fairfax Police Department's Division of Animal Control. Call 703-385-7919 or visit www.fairfaxva.gov.

Father-Daughter Dance. 6-9 p.m. at The Sherwood Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Fairytale guests will be visit that evening so don't miss out. Girls celebrate Father's Day with dads, granddads, big brothers, godfathers and family members. There will be lots of dancing, games, prizes and good food. \$30 per person. Register at fairfaxva.gov/specialevents. Call 703-385-7978 or email parksrec@fairfaxva.gov.

Mount Vernon Nights. 7 p.m. at Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Road, Lorton. This series of free, public concerts features a variety of musical performances reflecting Fairfax County's diversity, culture and community spirit. Bring a picnic dinner and a blanket and enjoy one of Fairfax County's special summer traditions. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances/mt-vernion-nights.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/JUNE 16-17

NTRAK Model Train Show. Saturday, noon-5 p.m.; Sunday, noon-4 p.m. at Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. The Northern Virginia NTRAK members will hold a two day N gauge train show. Museum members and age 4 and under, free; ages 5-15, \$2 and 16 and older, \$4. Visit www.fairfax-station.org, www.facebook.com/FFXSRR or call 703-425-9225.

MONDAY/JUNE 18

Funday Monday: Theatre School. 10:30-11:30 a.m. at Old Town Square, 10415 North St., Fairfax. A variety of children's activities and entertainment in Old Town Square,

Mondays June-August. Free. Visit www.fairfaxva.gov/government/parks-recreation/old-town-square.

TUESDAY/JUNE 19

Farm to Fairfax Market. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Old Town Square, 10415 North St., Fairfax. The market, will be producers-only - meaning that all vendors at the market may only sell what they raise on their farms or make from scratch using local ingredients as much as possible. May-September, weather permitting. Call 703-385-7893.

Storytime in the Park. 10:30 a.m. in Old Town Square, 10415 North St., Fairfax. In association with Fairfax County Public Library. Weather permitting. Visit www.fairfaxva.gov.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 20

Bike to Market Week. 8 a.m.-noon at Wakefield Park, 8100 Braddock Road, Annandale. The Fairfax County Farmers Markets will be celebrating Bike to Market Week at select locations in collaboration with the Fairfax County Department of Transportation. Bring family and friends along and receive a free bike map and giveaways. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets or call 703-642-0128.

THURSDAY/JUNE 21

Free Lemonade Day. 10 a.m.-9 p.m. at Charleys Philly Steaks, 6500 Springfield Mall, Springfield. Customers can visit the Springfield Charleys location at Springfield Town Center to receive a free, regular-sized Original Lemonade during regular operating hours on Thursday, June 21 (no purchase necessary, limit one per customer). Visit charleys.com.

Hometown Thursdays: Big Bad JuJu. 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Old Town Square, 10415 North St., Fairfax. Third Thursdays in May-September. The new series will host local bands from the Fairfax area. Meet up with friends, grab dinner at one of the many restaurants in downtown, and listen to great music. A free, family-friendly event for all ages. Visit www.fairfaxva.gov/government/parks-recreation/special-events/hometown-thursdays.

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 11

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CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 10

FRIDAY/JUNE 22

FrogHair Golf Tournament. Noon at Twin Lakes Golf Course, 6201 Union Mill Road, Clifton. Enjoy the chance to be a winner at the upcoming FrogHair Golf Tournament presented jointly by Southwestern Youth Association and Chantilly Youth Association. A fun twist on the game is presented at each hole, providing both experienced and inexperienced golfers with an opportunity to win a prize. \$99 per person. Visit www.froghairgolfclassic.com.

Rock the Block: The 5:55. 6:30-9:30 p.m. at Old Town Square, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Family-friendly free concert series, which features live bands, beer garden, and city restaurant vendor booths. Free. Call 703-385-7858 or visit www.fairfaxva.gov/rocktheblock.

B-I-N-G-O. 7 p.m. at Fire Station 3, 4081 University Drive, Fairfax. Enjoy free coffee, entertaining callers, a friendly atmosphere, \$1,000 guaranteed jackpot, treasure chest progressive raffles, and good food available for purchase. Visit www.fairfaxva.gov/bingo or call 703-273-3638.

SATURDAY/JUNE 23

Ribbon Cutting at Hidden Pond. 10 a.m. at Hidden Pond Nature Center, 8511 Greeley Blvd., Springfield. The public is invited to a ribbon-cutting ceremony and site celebration of the new playground and multi-use outdoor shelter at Hidden Pond Nature Center. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/hidden-pond/.

Kidz Korner: Superheroes Party – Ever Laughter Parties. 10:30 a.m. in Old Town Square at the pergola, Fairfax. A variety of children's activities and entertainment in Old Town Square, Saturdays June-September. Free show. Visit www.fairfaxva.gov/government/parks-recreation/old-town-square.

“Midnight in America: Darkness, Sleep, and Dreams during the Civil War.” 2-4 p.m. at the Civil War Interpretive Center at Historic Blenheim, 3610 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Christopher Newport University Professor Jonathan W. White, PhD, will discuss how the horrors and rigors of war for both Union and Confederate soldiers penetrated their lives at night through sleeplessness and dreams. Free. Call 703-591-6728.

Mount Vernon Nights. 7 p.m. at Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Road, Lorton. This series of free, public concerts features a variety of musical performances reflecting Fairfax County's diversity, culture and community spirit. Bring a picnic dinner and a blanket and enjoy one of Fairfax County's special summer traditions. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances/mt-vernon-nights.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/JUNE 23-24

Amateur Radio Field Day. From 2 p.m. Saturday to 2 p.m. Sunday, at Burke Lake Park, 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Field Day is a national amateur radio event, is conducted during a 24-hour period. Field Day operations must be powered by emergency power sources – generators, solar power or batteries. Visit [viennawireless.net](http://www.viennawireless.net).

SUNDAY/JUNE 24

Vegetable Plant Clinics. 4-6 p.m. at Franconia Park, 6432 Bowie Drive, Springfield. Focus will be on garden diseases. Fairfax County Master Gardeners will add a focus on vegetable gardening to their Plant Clinic program. Sponsored by Virginia Cooperative Extension. Contact the VCE Fairfax County Master Gardener Help Desk at 703-324-8556.

JUNE 25-29

Summer Art Camp. Registration is open for Art Camp 2018 in Burke for 5-8 year olds, 8 years and up. Camp is held through Burke Centre Conservancy at the Woods Community Center, 10100 Wards Grove Circle, Burke. Second location is Burke Presbyterian Church, 5690 Oak Leather Drive, Burke. Camps include: Fine Arts & Crafts Camp (8 yrs. & up) = \$142 plus \$25 supply fee; Drawing Camp (8 yrs & up) = \$142 plus \$25 supply fee; Drawing Plus Color & Craft Fun Camp (5-8 yrs) = \$120 plus \$20 supply fee. Camp weeks are June 25-29; July 16-20; and July 23-27. Call 703-250-6930 or visit www.czartlessons.com.

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Trying to Mind My Weekly Business



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Usually I'm able to write my column because something is on my mind, or at least percolating in there somewhere. At the moment, nothing is on my mind or even remotely percolating. The reason for this lack of percolation is that as of Saturday, eight days after my last chemotherapy infusion, I still haven't been able to think clearly in my mind – or out of it, because I've spent the past week wallowing in it.

The post-chemotherapy experience to which I vaguely refer is the primary side effect of the drug with which I am infused. For the week or so following my treatment, I am not quite myself (nor am I anybody else for that matter). I am dull and void.

I am not interested in most tasks and less inclined to concern myself with trivialities and/or any responsibilities related or not. I am simply biding time, usually lying on the bed, fully dressed but minimally engaged. Sights and sounds don't bother me but neither do they motivate me in the slightest.

I am not exactly a shell of my former self, but the chemotherapy has definitely hollowed out a place for itself. Eating and drinking is very challenging. Consequently, I have difficulty swallowing the 60-odd pills that I take every day. If I'm not careful I will become less medicated and more constipated. As a direct result, I will sleep throughout the day – and night. Furthermore, I risk becoming dehydrated and vitamin and nutrient deficient.

Let me be clear: this column is not about me dying, or the feelings that I have during this post-chemotherapy "weak" thinking that I am. Hardly. It's more an attempt to explain – and perhaps justify, the minimal creative thinking I've engaged in this past week preparing to write this column. It reminds me of a particular Seinfeld episode when George explained to Jerry why he was unable to lie his way out of dinner with J. Peterman: "I dug down and there was nothing there."

All of the previous paragraphs being written, compared to myriad complications I could be experiencing – and am not, as well as the premature death "prognosed" by my oncologist: "13 months to two years" back in late February 2009, I am quite the opposite of a victim of my circumstances. I am a survivor. Nine-plus years. Though still an active patient and one never characterized as a N.E.D. ("no evidence of disease"), I continue to look forward not backward. My life is ahead of me, not behind. To invoke an old reference: "It beats Bermuda off-season."

When "Team Lourie" asked my oncologist back in early '09 if I could possibly live beyond my prognosis, he was not particularly encouraging. I remember him saying: "Could you be the one? Sure." ("One" being the operative word.)

And in the context of all that he was explaining/outlining, hardly was it offered up with any enthusiasm. It was more a verbal life preserver (no pun intended). Something for us to grasp as we continued to discuss and then ultimately decided to begin chemotherapy infusions six days later on the following Wednesday.

And here I still am, June 9, 2018, "Chronic Ken," as I've previously "monikered" myself. I'm living proof of one of the recent goals of lung cancer research: to change a previously terminal diagnosis from a death sentence into a life sentence. And I can live with that, hopefully for many years. I have no doubt that research/clinical studies will make it all a reality.

New drugs/treatment protocols are being approved almost daily it seems, by the F.D.A. In fact, as many drugs have been approved in the past few years as had been approved in the previous decade. I have treatment choices now that I've never had before, immunotherapy is but one example.

As far as the subject matter for this week's column, this is all I could muster. I hope you don't mind.

Kenny Lourie is an Advertising Representative for The Potomac Almanac & The Connection Newspapers.

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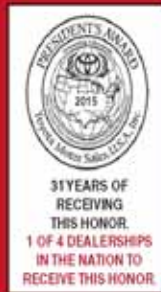
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